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THE PENNY ILLUSTRATED PAPER AND ILLUSTRATED TIMES

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A LONDON FIRE: THE CENTRAL MEAT MARKET IN FLAMES.

A PANTOMIME GIANT'S DILEMMA.

ONE of the most successful pantomimes in London last Christmas was that of "Jack, the Giant Killer," at the Standard Theatre, and no small share of that success was due to the comicalities of the actor who played the part of the Giant. Every night Miss Jennie Lee, as Jack, put the burly villain of the nursery legend to death, but even in that agonising moment he was able to raise roars of laughter by his original method of giving up the ghost. Night after night the merry fooling was kept up, and the humours of Fe-Fi-Fo-Fum became the talk of the town. But after the pantomime had been running some weeks, the Giant was seized with a sudden chill, and it was observed by Miss Lee that he did not take so much killing as usual. The fact was, the Giant's hip had fallen a victim to a distressing malady—a very serious form of lumbago—which threatened to put a stop to his stage career unless something could be done to arrest its progress. When he went home from the theatre that night he was racked with pain, and all next day his suffering continued. What was to be done? He knew that every seat in the theatre would be filled at night, and that if he did not appear there would be great difficulty in getting through the representation. In this dilemma he was recommended to try "Dr. Richter's Expeller," and he did so. The result can be best told in his own words. He writes:—

"I was greatly surprised at the result. The relief was next to instantaneous, for before night the pain had abated to such an extent that I was not only able to appear, but played the Giant (in spite of the enormous weight I had to carry), with comfort to myself. An exceedingly curious effect is produced by your 'Expeller'—an effect I have never experienced in the use of any other remedy, and which alone should prove its efficiency in all rheumatic complaints. Unlike most remedies, there is no unpleasantness experienced on its application—no sudden burnings—the 'Expeller' is scarcely felt on application, but four-and-twenty hours after, on taking a short walk it again makes its appearance in a delicious glow which increases in intensity until it seems as if a mild Turkish bath were being applied to the parts affected. It is undoubtedly a safe and sure cure for all rheumatic or neuralgic pains, and it is surprising how few drops produce a result. I have myself heard a gentleman say that every drop is worth a sovereign, and I have much pleasure in saying that I perfectly agree with him. "Yours sincerely, H. LONSDELL."

If a London actor, under such trying circumstances, can find immediate relief from distracting pain, it is ample proof that in "Dr. Richter's Expeller" there is a ready remedy for sufferings which have hitherto defied successful treatment. It never fails to relieve and expel the most obstinate pains, and has positively cured cases of old standing for which all other remedies had been tried in vain—gout torture, rheumatic agonies, lumbago, sciatica, neuralgia in the head, face, or neck, stiff joints, toothache, sprains, bruises, and all excruciating pain, of whatever description, to which poor mortals are liable. Millions of Bottles sold last year. Price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. Of all Chemists. Post-free 1s. 3d. and 3s., of Dr. Richter and Co., 1, Railway-place, Fenchurch-street, London, E.C. The "Guide to Good Health" given away;—will be sent post-free to anyone asking for it.—[ADVT.]

DRURY-LANE.—Twice Daily, at 1.30 and 7.30, THE BABES IN THE WOOD. Messrs. Harry Nicholls, Campbell, C. Laurie, jun., Stevens, Leno, Griffiths, Brothers Andrews, Inch, Pleon, and Harry Payne; Mesdames Florence Dysart, Duggin, Æneas, and Harriet Vernon.

LYCEUM.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HENRY IRVING.—MACBETH, EVERY EVENING, at 7.45. Overture, 7.40. Macbeth, Mr. Henry Irving; Lady Macbeth, Miss Ellen Terry. Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open Ten to Five. Seats can also be booked by letter or telegram. Carriages, Eleven.—LYCEUM.

ADELPHI. — A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.—EVERY EVENING, at EIGHT, THE SILVER FALLS, a NEW and ORIGINAL DRAMA, by George R. Sims and Henr. Pettitt. Mr. William Terriss, &c. Doors open at Seven; Farce at 7.15. Box-office open daily from Ten to Five. The Theatre lighted entirely by electricity. MORNING PERFORMANCE TO-DAY (Saturday), at Two.

GLOBE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. RICHARD MANSFIELD.—TO-NIGHT (SATURDAY) at EIGHT, and Every Evening during Mr. Mansfield's absence, SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER. Miss KATE VAUGHAN as Miss Hardcastle and Mr. LIONEL BROUGH as Tony Lumpkin. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open Ten to Five. Shakspeare's Tragedy RICHARD III. will be played at this theatre upon Mr. Mansfield's return.

GRATIS. 350 BEAUTIFULLY-DESIGNED MONOGRAMS with every 1s. Bottle of CRYSTAL PALACE JOHN BOND'S GOLD MEDAL MARKING INK; or, if preferred, two Rubber-Type Alphabets, to form name. Caution.—The new law is very severe against vendors or agents substituting colourable imitation. None genuine unless label has the words—"Prepared by the Daughter of the late John Bond." Awarded Thirty-eight Gold Medals and Grand Diplomas.—Works, 75, Southgate-road, London, N.

A DUEL BETWEEN COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS.

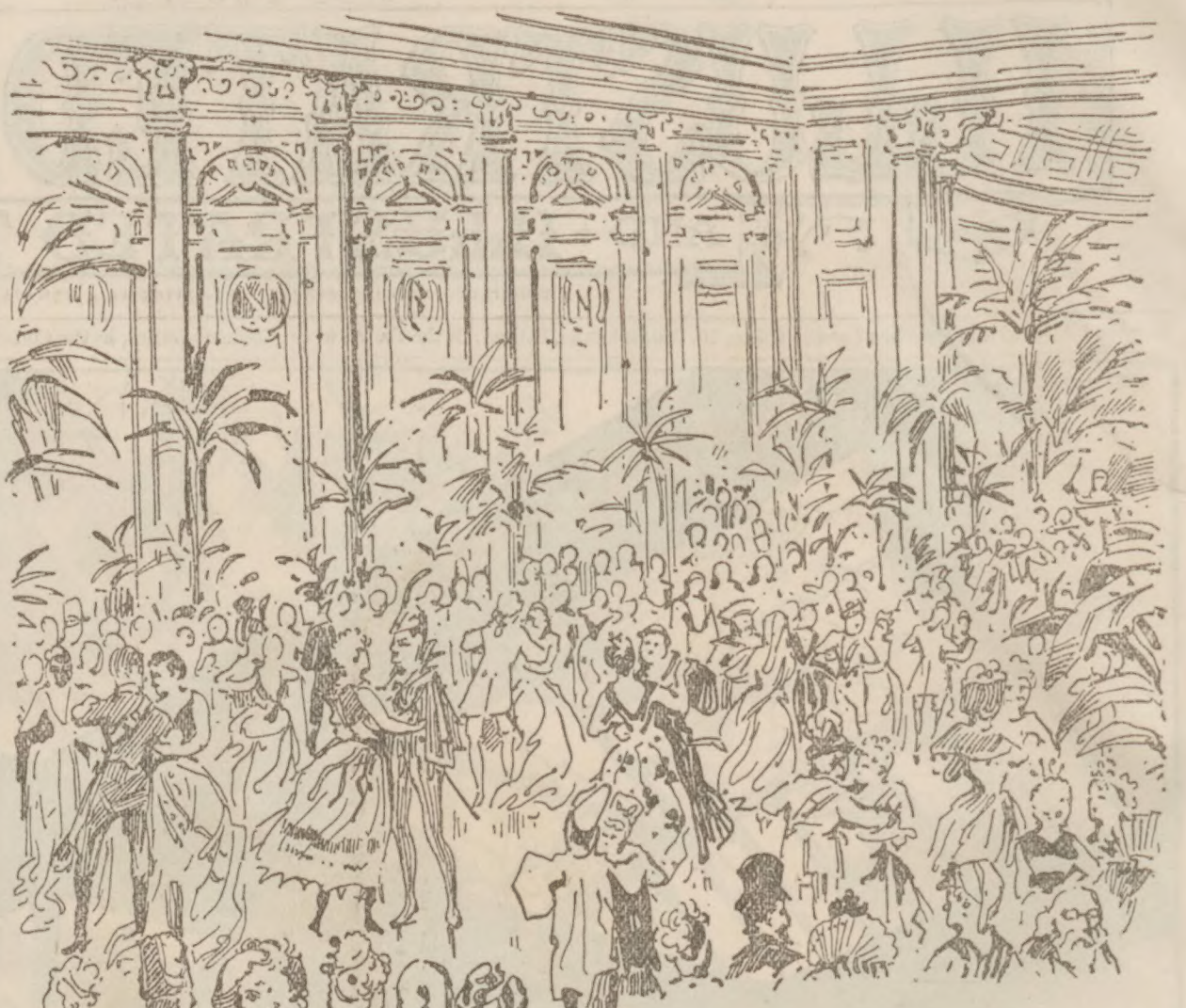
A bloodthirsty and unscientific duel took place on Monday outside Limoges between two commercial travellers, neither of whom had ever used rapiers before. The men had a dispute about the respective firms of which they were the representatives, and, although utterly inexperienced in the "noble art of self-defence" as practised in this country, they insisted upon calling one another out. Notwithstanding the piercing cold, they "peeled," and faced one another with fury. After several mad lunges and haphazard parries the duel was terminated by a severe wound received by one of the combatants, whose right arm was literally ripped open from the wrist to the elbow.

THE QUEEN has been pleased to send a present of old linen for the use of St. George's Hospital.

HEALTH UNDERCLOTHING.—Ladies, send for Patterns of white and scarlet flannels, undyed wools, fancy shirting, and dressing-gown flannels, sent, post-free, from the manufacturer, JOHN NOBLE, Victoria Mills, Manchester. Better and cheaper than German manufactured goods. Please write at once, and mention this Paper.—[ADVT.]

TOBACCONISTS COMMENCING.—See "Ill. Guide," post-free. Tobacconists' Co., 11, Beech-street, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

OUR LONDON LETTER.



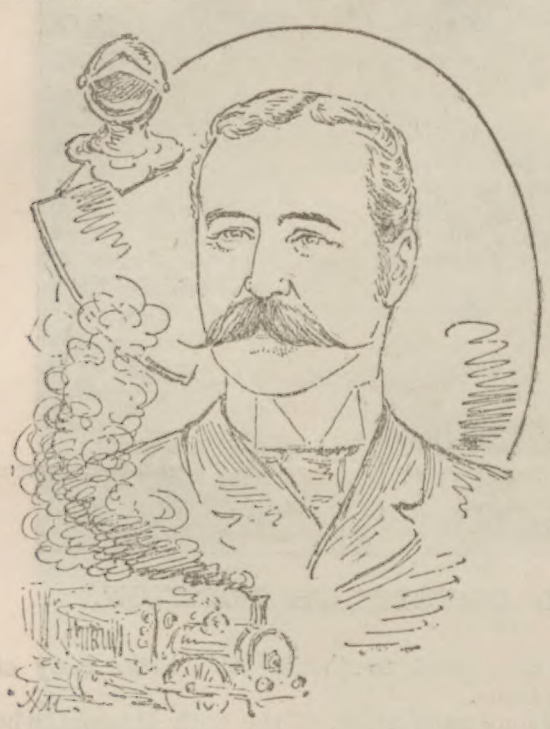
COLONEL JOHN T. NORTH, the warm-hearted "Nitrate King," and the hospitable "Nitrate Queen," Mrs. North, on the first Friday night in the New Year gave great pleasure to close upon a thousand guests at their magnificent Fancy-Dress Ball in the sumptuous Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole. The

truly regal host and hostess are here sketched as they stood, with their eldest son and daughter, in the palm-decked Louis Seize Drawing-room, and cordially received their multi-costumed guests—making amends, so to speak, for the marked absence of a Royal Court from London. I had the honour to be one of the Halberdier Guard at the first memorable Costume Ball of the Royal Institute of Painters at the Prince's Hall, and can justly say Colonel North's symposium completely eclipsed that fine function in grandeur. It was a brilliant group the Colonel and his wife and family formed in the luxurious Reception Room—the gay costume of King Henry the Eighth suiting the host's muscular, well-knit figure as well as the charming and handsome brocade dress of the Duchesse de Maine fitted smiling Mrs. North. Mr. Harry North wore a wonderfully becoming Louis Quinze suit as the young Duc de Richelieu; and his little brother, Master Arthur North, as Edward VI., looked a subject worthy the brush of Gainsborough. But the most enchanting and fairylike figure of all was bewitchingly pretty Miss North—a blue-eyed blonde, in the diaphanous and piquante dress of an Oriental Princess—acknowledged belle of the ball. Radiantly bright as the spectacle was in the Louis Seize chamber, it was surpassed, later on, by the rainbow feasts of colour in the two ball-rooms. The varieties of dress were surprising; and there was a freshness about the costumes unusual at such fêtes. A fair Lalla Rookh or Leila (Miss K. Smith) paired well with winsome Miss North. There were Mephistopheles, Pierrots, Hunting-men, and even Headsmen. I found I made mental notes of *chic* Mrs. Hope-Johnstone in quaint Japanese costume dancing with Mr. Carlton Blyth, in a telling last-century military uniform; a stately Marie de Medici in Mademoiselle Rost; Miss A. Winter as a captivating Normandy fisher-girl, and Mrs. Dryden in a novel card-decked silk dress as "Monte Carlo"; Mrs. Augustus Harris as a fair Carmen, and Mrs. Abel Knapton as a brunette Carmen; a genial Lady Teazle in Mrs. Dickinson, and fascinating Anne of Austria in Mrs. R. Caton-Woodville; a sumptuous Louis Seize in Mr. A. M. Broadley; a trim Royal Archer in Sir John Heron Maxwell; a grotesque "Unfinished Masher" in Mr. Arthur Roberts; a handsome Toreador in Mr. Smithers; and a smart little Boulogne fisher-girl, who reminded me of Marie in "Love-Clouds"; Mr. Henry Sampson in a black velvet suit that fitted him as well as the classic garb of Juno suited fair Mrs. Sampson, and the Neapolitan peasant-girl's costume became Miss Hennie Sampson. One also recognised in the labyrinth of colour such familiar actors on life's stage as Mr. Toole as the Don, Mr. Lal Brough as Hamlet, his comely son and daughter as Sir Charles Pomander and Kitty Clive, stalwart Captain Brough as Francis I., cheery Captain Carvick as a French Musketeer, Mr. John Aird as a City of London Lieutenant, Mr. and Mrs. John Sturgess and daughters as a "Happy Family" group, Mr. Tom Thorne in a Directoire coat, Mr. Montagu Vizetelly as a Basque Sailor; the Brothers Gatti, with Mrs. Gatti and daughters, in modest raiment; Mr. J. L. Shine as a Bluejacket, Mr. Cutler

as the Duke of Buckingham; and Mr. R. Caton Woodville as an Albanian chief. Lady Randolph Churchill, as Queen of the Night, and a handsome Queen, too, her star-decked black dress fitting her to perfection, and a diamond star flashing from her dark hair, arrived with Lord Randolph Churchill (in Court dress) in time to be escorted by Colonel North to the bountifully spread Supper-room; Lord Randolph taking in Mrs. North. It must suffice if I add that from first to last the North Costume Ball was a great success, affording pleasure and entertainment to a host of people who are bound to gratefully remember the Colonel's liberal hospitality. The festival was another feather in the cap of the excellent Manager of the Métropole, Mr. William T. Holland.

* * * * *

Sir Myles Fenton, the General Manager of the South-Eastern Railway, deserves to be congratulated on the honour bestowed upon him in the New Year by all who have any experience of his courtesy as well as administrative ability. First Manager of the Underground Railway, he gained unrivalled experience in the direction of passenger traffic on the most crowded and popular line in the world. That so many millions of people should have been conveyed on the Metropolitan Underground Railway with so few casualties richly entitled Sir Myles Fenton to the knighthood conferred upon him by the Queen. By his ready adoption of improvements in telegraphic communication and signalling, and in the lighting of carriages he long ago merited the warmest thanks of the travelling public. Sir Myles Fenton's appointment to the General Managership of the South-Eastern Railway was a well-won reward for masterly administration. May he live long to enjoy his distinction!



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Lord Salisbury's firm declaration that our Navy shall be commensurate with its manifold duties, has at last satisfied that enthusiastic reformer, Lord Charles Beresford, M.P.

* * * * *

Success to Lord Rosebery and Mr. Augustus Harris in their candidature for the London County Council! Able and earnest administrators, both!

* * * * *

The Prince of Wales's characteristically cordial championship of a popular cause—the purchase of the late Professor Fawcett's house and grounds for the People—should ensure the success of the movement commended in these columns last week. The Prince's pithy speech to the working men's deputation in the Library of Lambeth Palace on Monday proved his heart was in the cause. It is sincerely to be hoped that his confident aspiration will be soon realised — that the funds will be promptly subscribed — and that the Prince and Princess of Wales may this coming Spring have the satisfaction of throwing open Lawn and Carroun House and grounds to the public for ever.

* * * * *

Barratt's Beauty Show—so it ap-Pears—is to be one of the social events of the London Season.

* * * * *

Will not some great Ducal Landlord subscribe the £40,000 needed to complete the purchase of the empty Albert Palace, in order to transform it into a People's Palace for Battersea? Gifts of £20,000 and £10,000 and £500 are promised if the £40,000 be forthcoming. Let the Prince advocate the institution of this new Polytechnic, and it will be established.

* * * * *

The Proprietor of the *New York Herald* has hung out the signboards of his new London daily edition on the outer walls of the old *People* office, in the Strand. With Oakey Hall at the helm, the new paper should be O. K.

* * * * *

The Glasgow *Bailie* indulges in this bit of prophecy respecting the Govan Election; the antagonists being Mr. John Wilson and Sir John Pender, "The Cablegraph King":—

Johnny Wilson frae Hillhead
To fair Govan cam' a wooing;
But the lassie frowned and said—
"I'll hae nae drink o' your brewing.
For you're no the richt Johnny,
You're no the richt John;
And Pender is the only lad
I'll wear my love upon."

* * * * *

The "Old Guard" of the Press, who have nobly upheld the fair fame of journalism for many decades, are dropping off one by one. The cruel fog of London no doubt occasioned the death of the well-loved and genial Parliamentary Editor of the *Morning Post*, Mr. Henry M. Dunphy, whose remains were last Saturday followed to their last resting-place in Paddington Cemetery by Mr. Erskine (the Serjeant-at-Arms) and many Press comrades, who offer his relatives their warmest sympathies in their bereavement. The "Gallery" has also reason to lament the death of another highly esteemed "Old Guard"—Mr. James Mould, to whom the Proprietors of the *Standard* gave a munificent pension on his retirement from the headship of the *Standard* Parliamentary staff.

[*Town Edition.*] PHILIP.

THE QUEEN AND THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

THE Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out on Jan. 4, attended by the Hon. Evelyn Moore; and her Majesty went out on Saturday morning with the Princess; and the Empress Frederick walked in the grounds with Princess Victoria of Prussia. Earl Cadogan arrived at Osborne on Jan. 4, and had the honour of dining with their Majesties and the Royal family.

Baron Reuter's agent says: "Queen Victoria will arrive at Biarritz in March next. The Villa Larochefoucauld has been taken for the accommodation of her Majesty."

Her Royal Highness Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, attended by the Hon. Ethel Cadogan, arrived at Osborne last Saturday, having crossed over from Portsmouth in her Majesty's yacht Alberta, Captain Fullerton, A.D.C. Lord Burghley met her Royal Highness at Portsmouth, and attended her to Osborne. The Queen, the Empress Frederick, and the members of the Royal family attended Divine service at Osborne on Sunday. The Rev. Canon Prothero, M.A., officiated.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, and Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, were present at the marriage of Lady Alice Montagu, daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Manchester, with the Hon. Edward Stanley, Grenadier Guards, son of Lord and Lady Stanley of Preston, at the Royal Military Chapel, Wellington Barracks, last Saturday afternoon.

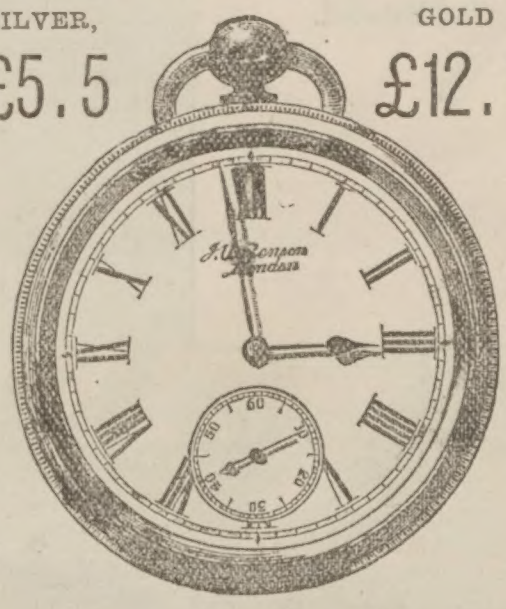
Their Royal Highnesses went afterwards to the wedding breakfast at the residence of the Duke and Duchess of Manchester in Great Stanhope-street. Miss Knollys and the Hon. H. Tyrwhitt-Wilson were in attendance.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, and Prince Albert Victor, Prince George, and Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, were present at Divine service on Sunday.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, and Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, left Marlborough House on Monday for Sandringham.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST WATCH IN THE WORLD,
EXCELLING ALL OTHERS FOR ACCURACY AND VALUE, IS
BENSON'S PATENT
ENGLISH LEVER
"LUDGATE" WATCH.

SILVER, £5.5 GOLD £12.12

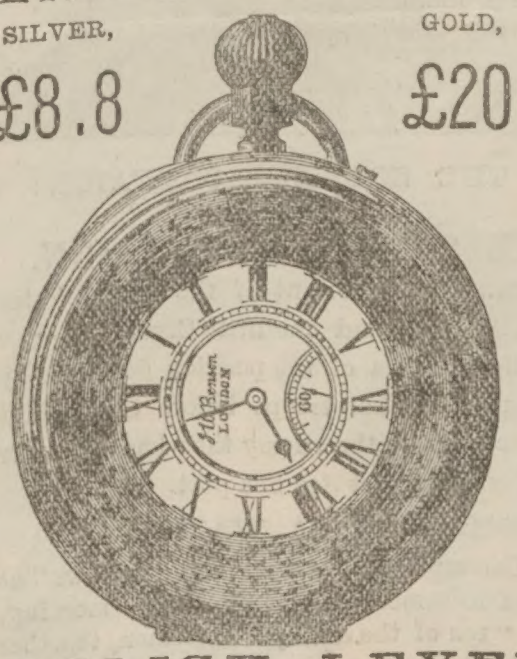


HIGHEST AWARD, GOLD MEDAL, INVENTIONS, 1885, TO
BENSON'S "LUDGATE" WATCH
(PATENT No. 4658).

Description—THREE-QUARTER PLATE ENGLISH LEVER WATCH, of BEST LONDON MAKE, with Chronometer Balance, Jewelled throughout, and Patent Protection from Dust and Damp. Keeps better time than, and is double the strength and value of, any Watch made.
Thousands of Testimonials from Wearers in all parts of the world.
Made in Four Sizes:—Ladies.
Gentlemen and Youths (as illustrated).
Working Men generally; and
Specially large and strong for Miners and Railway-men.
In extra Strong Sterling Silver Crystal Glass Dome Cases, £5 5s.; or in 18-carat Gold Crystal Glass Dome Cases, £12 12s. Lady's size, £10 10s.

BENSON'S
KEYLESS "LUDGATE."

SILVER, £8.8 GOLD, £20



ENGLISH LEVER
(PATENT No. 4658).
Three-quarter Plate Movement, of our Best London Make
STRONG KEYLESS ACTION.

In compliance with numerous demands for the "Ludgate" Watch *with keyless action*, we have specially designed the above (as shown in the Illustration), which combines all the advantages of the former together with the undoubted convenience of the keyless mechanism.
Jewelled throughout. True Chronometer Balance. Patent Protection from dust and damp. In Massive Sterling Silver hall-marked Dome Cases, engine-turned or polished, in strong Crystal Glass, Hunting, or Half-Hunting Cases, £8 8s.; or in heavy 18-carat Gold Cases, £20.
An ILLUSTRATED BOOK, explaining the advantages of the "LUDGATE" ENGLISH LEVER over the ordinary Lever Watches, post-free on application. Also Pamphlets on WATCHES (from £2 2s. to £250), CLOCKS, JEWELLERY, and PLATE.

WATCHES SENT FREE, AT OUR RISK, TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

J. W. BENSON,
Sole Maker,
STEAM FACTORY,
62 and 64, LUDGATE-HILL, E.C.;
28, ROYAL EXCHANGE, E.C.; and
25, OLD BOND-STREET, W., LONDON.

WATCH CLUBS established under J. W. Benson's system are most beneficial both to Members and Secretaries. Applications desired from Foremen, Insurance Agents, and others to form Clubs.

THE SOUAKIM CAMPAIGN: THE RIGHT WATER FORT OF GENERAL GRENFELL'S POSITION.

THE SOUAKIM CAMPAIGN.

THE Drawing we present of the Right Water Fort at Souakim, and our little Chart, will give our readers an idea of the position occupied by the Anglo-Egyptian troops before the gallant dash was made on the enemy that had been for weeks besieging that Red Sea port.

OSMAN DIGNA WATCHFUL.

The Correspondent of the "Central News" at Souakim informed us that on Friday morning, Jan. 4, "ten of the enemy's horsemen, together with three men on camels and four spearmen on foot, approached within 600 yards of one of our vedettes, evidently with the purpose of ascertaining whether any British troops had been left in Souakim. The vedette fell back until joined by a mounted patrol and some Egyptian troopers, led by Lieutenant Beech, of the 21st Hussars. Seeing that they were outnumbered, the enemy slowly retired, firing as they went. Our men replied with their rifles, but without inflicting any loss upon the enemy. The Arabs finally retreated at a smart pace towards Handoub, after having fired about sixty rounds at an average range of 1000 yards. Our artillery in the fort on the Handoub road fired two shells at the enemy without perceptible effect. The firing caused some alarm in the town."

REDUCTION OF THE GARRISON.

We learnt from the same Correspondent last Saturday that "The garrison of Souakim has been further and seriously weakened by the departure of the 10th Soudanese Regiment. These gallant Blacks left this morning for Suez, whence they will be distributed for garrison duties at Kosseir, Luxor, Assouan, and Mansourah. Their two British officers — Captain Donne, of the Royal Sussex, and Lieutenant E. F. David, Royal Marines—sailed with the regiment. A few of the enemy's cavalry scouts again ventured to the neighbourhood of our outlying positions early this morning, but on observing that they had been noticed they retired without firing."

A DESERTER OR SPY OF OSMAN DIGNA.

One of Osman Digna's lieutenants—avowedly a deserter; possibly, a spy—came into camp at Souakim on Saturday last, assuming disgust at being punished for chewing tobacco. He reported that Osman Digna was in favour of remaining at Handoub, but that some of the Emirs were in favour of retreating inland. There were about 2000 Mahdists now at Handoub—the number estimated by General Grenfell upon the basis of the reports brought in by spies and deserters. Osman's lieutenant repeated the tale sent by his chief respecting the capture of Emin Pasha and a white traveller and the fall of the Equatorial provinces. He asserted that Emin at any rate was in Khartoum, and was being well treated, according to the last reports received by Osman from the Mahdi.

SUNDAY'S ENCOUNTER.

The "Central News'" Souakim Correspondent was our informant that "a picket of one of the Soudanese regiments was engaged, on Sunday, in clearing the bush, at a distance of about 400 yards from our positions, when a party of the enemy, consisting of about sixty horsemen, a few camelmen, and other fighting-men on foot appeared with that suddenness which characterises the movements of these desert-trained warriors, and attempted to 'rush' the little body of Egyptians.

"Lieutenant Kelly, of the 20th Hussars, who was in command of the patrol, promptly discharged his revolver at the foremost of the attacking party, checking their advance and clearing the front. This enabled our men to form and load, and a well-directed volley from their rifles disposed of four of the assailants. The others instantly retired. The guns of Shatar Fort opened upon them immediately after, discharging three shots with great rapidity. Almost simultaneously six more were fired amongst them from Fort Handoub; and finally one splendidly-directed shot from the Racer completed the rout of the rebels.

"Within a few minutes the Egyptian cavalry and mounted infantry were with our men and pursued the discomfited adventurers into the bush. At two o'clock this afternoon 200 prisoners were brought in."

PROCLAMATION TO THE TRIBES.

The remainder of the Welsh Regiment left Souakim on Monday morning in the steamer Hodeidah for Suez, en route to their old quarters in Cairo. Eight deserters who left the enemy's camp during the night arrived here this morning. They do not bring any fresh news.

On Monday afternoon, the Governor-General issued a proclamation to the tribes, in which he informs them of the line of policy which the Government intends to follow in future. He assures the tribesmen that, as they have been told upon previous occasions, the Government has no intention whatever of asserting authority over them, nor is there any wish to impose taxes upon them. All that the Government desires is to see the various tribes living peaceably together and associating among themselves to bring about the revival of trade; but the Government is determined to hold Souakim, and if the Dervishes again venture to attack they will be driven off as before. The Government, however, would prefer to see the tribesmen themselves expel the Dervishes.

A POOR PEASANT'S PROSPECT IN IRELAND: EVICTION.

"PITY POOR PAT."

REMEMBERING the language of sympathy used by Earl Cadogan in the House of Lords when speaking of Irish evictions and how to prevent them, we own to being astonished and grieved to find that the New Year has seen a revival of this barbarous practice in Ireland. We print an Illustration of a poor Irish family cast out into the bitter cold—drawn by Mr. R. Caton Woodville—in order that the full tide of poor Paddy's misfortune when such a calamity befalls him may be realised by the British public. We would fain hope that the picture would also have a humanising effect upon the callous landlords who permit such atrocities to be committed in the Sister Isle—land of gallant hearts and sweet gentlewomen!

"MAN THE LIFE-BOAT!"

WHEN the stormy winds do blow, especially in bleak winter time, every Briton finds a warm corner of his heart filled with hearty admiration for the tough and hardy, simple and brave fishermen who man our life-boats, and nobly proceed to the rescue of shipwrecked mariners. Quite recently, in the Old Year, we dwelt upon the grand services of the Royal National Life-Boat Institution, whose magnificent efforts in the cause of humanity merit every encouragement and support on the part of the rich and powerful. In presenting a vivid picture of the launch of the Brighton Life-Boat by its gallant crew, we cannot do better early in this New Year than summarise the praiseworthy work performed in 1888 by the

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.

The life-boat men, "always ready, boys; ready!" fearlessly launched their light-blue craft in heavy seas by day and by night, and pluckily rowed, let the waves run never so high, to the rescue of all sailors in distress. In this way, they

SAVED 617 PERSONS

from, humanly speaking as regards a great majority of the cases, certain death by drowning. Who will not help the cause? There is no purer one in the kingdom. Besides this grand list of services, the life-boats were instrumental in either helping into safe waters or in saving from total destruction 25 vessels. They also convoyed to shore numerous open fishing-boats overtaken by gales. In addition to the launches resulting in the saving of life or property, the life-boats were sent out 159 times, in reply to distress signals, or what were believed to be such, only to find that the signals had been improperly made or that the vessels were out of danger. Rewards were also granted by the Institution in the year for rescuing 174 lives by means of shore-boats, fishing-boats, and other means, bringing up the number of lives for the saving of which the Society has granted rewards during 1888 to 791, and to

34,034 SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INSTITUTION IN 1824.

Every effort is being made by the Committee to place on the coast boats possessing the best modern improvements, and help is much needed to complete this very important work. A large number of the Society's 293 boats have already been "improved" or replaced by others of the new type, much to the satisfaction of the life-boat crews; but many more new boats must yet be built to make the service perfectly efficient, and the "ways and means" for the purpose should certainly be forthcoming from the British public.

ALL WISHING SUCCESS TO SUCH A NOBLE WORK

and desiring to assist in it, should contribute. Subscriptions and donations will be gladly received by all Bankers, the Honorary Secretaries of the different branches, and by Mr. Charles Dibdin, Secretary of the Institution, 14, John-street, Adelphi, London.

THE Mississippi steam-boat Paris has been wrecked while on her voyage up the river from New Orleans to Cincinnati. She struck on a snag and foundered immediately. Seven persons are missing.

THE Commander-in-Chief has approved of a cadet corps being formed in connection with the 4th Volunteer Battalion of the Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment, from the pupils of Mayall College, Hernehill, to be commanded by Dr. J. L. Stanley as honorary captain. Steps are also being taken towards forming a cadet corps at Uppingham School.

THE SECRET OF SUCCESS!—"A new invention is brought before the public, and commands success. A score of abominable imitations are immediately introduced by the unscrupulous, who, in copying the original closely enough to deceive the public, and yet not so exactly as to infringe upon legal rights, exercise an ingenuity that, employed in an original channel, could not fail to secure reputation and profit."—Adams. Caution.—Examine each Bottle, and see that the Capsule is marked ENO'S "FRUIT SALT." Without it you have been imposed on by worthless imitations. Sold by all Chemists. Prepared only at ENO'S "Fruit Salt" Works, London, S.E., by J. C. ENO'S patent.—[ADVT.]

A LONDON FIRE.

AT THE CENTRAL MEAT MARKET.

WE illustrate on our front page a conflagration which occasioned much alarm last Sunday evening in the city of London. The London Central Meat Market, West Smithfield, was the scene of much consternation on that evening, owing to the outbreak of fire at the south-eastern end of the Central avenue. The discovery was made by one of the night constables, James Newman, who saw fire raging in the kitchen on the first floor of No. 142, Central-avenue, occupied by Messrs. H. S. Fitter and Sons, meat-salesmen. He at once communicated with Sergeant Hartopp and Chief-Constable E. Mears, and the latter quickly directed the employment of two powerful hydrants in connection with the market. The fire was thus prevented from spreading in a westerly direction. There happened to be a direct "fire alarm" to the District Depôt, Clerkenwell, and Superintendent Hutchings at once proceeded on a manual to the scene of the outbreak, and Mr. Simmonds, the active and indefatigable second officer, quickly followed from Head-quarters, Southwark Bridge-road. Eventually there were seven steam-engines, three of the market hydrants and two street hydrants, got to work—the firemen directing the hose from the galleries in the inside of the building, and from the long ladders that were brought up and placed on the outside. The Salvage Corps, under Mr. Hall, were present in large numbers, and succeeded in preserving a quantity of stock. From a rough estimate officially obtained at a late hour on Monday, the damage may be set down at about 160 feet by 100 feet of the south-eastern corner of the London Central Meat Market partly burnt down and the roof off; and about twenty meat salesmen's shops, with the rooms over them and contents, more or less damaged by fire, heat, smoke, and water.

Chat of the London Gossips.

["WHAT THE *World* SAYS."]

THE QUEEN intends to return to Windsor Castle from Osborne on either Tuesday, Feb. 19, or on Friday, Feb. 22.

Lord and Lady Salisbury go to Sandringham next week on a visit to the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Lady Dorothy Nevill and her daughter, Mr. Arthur Walsh, and the Marquis Dulau were amongst the guests who assembled at Sandringham last week to stay over New Year's Day.

The Empress and the Prince and Princess will all come back to town on Saturday week, and early in the following week her Imperial Majesty will return to Berlin; while the Prince and Princess of Wales are going on the 22nd to Yorkshire, to stay for a few days with Lord and Lady Zetland at Aske Hall, near Richmond.

The Kensington memorial of the Queen's Jubilee is to take the form of a statue of her Majesty by Princess Louise, which is to be erected in Kensington Gardens, on a site between the Palace and the Round Pond. The Queen is to be represented as she appeared in 1837, after the well-known picture by Sir George Hayter.

The friends of Mr. and Mrs. George Lewis assembled in great force at the Synagogue in Portland-street on Wednesday week, when their eldest daughter was married to Mr. Lionel Hart. The youthful bride looked remarkably well in white satin and diamonds, and her six bridesmaids carried large bouquets of roses, which imparted the requisite amount of colour to the procession.

The Guards' Chapel, with its marble and mosaics, lends itself admirably to great ecclesiastical ceremonials; and the dense fog which hovered over Piccadilly mercifully spared Birdcage-walk from its clutches on Saturday afternoon, when the marriage of Mr. "Eddy" Stanley and Lady Alice Montagu brought more Royalties together than have been seen at any social function for some time past. The soldiers of Mr. Stanley's company lined the aisle; the Prince of Wales had something agreeable to say to everybody; the Princess of Wales, in brocade and furs, listened smilingly to the Marchesa de Santurce's respectful invitation to her daughter's marriage; the Princesses of Wales looked wonderfully well in their grey coats trimmed with fur; and the Duchess of Teck brought her daughter in a drab dress which can hardly be described as becoming. Prince George and Prince "Eddy" appeared to be in equally good spirits; and beauty was admirably represented by Lady Randolph Churchill (wrapped in a long grey cloak edged with fur), Lady De Grey (in brown), Lady Forbes, Lady Clarendon, the Duchess of Hamilton, and Mrs. Arthur Sassoon.

The *première* of "Ivanhoe," the Guards' burlesque, is fixed for Feb. 1. Mrs. Frederick Wellesley is to be Rebecca, and Miss Jenny McNulty, Maid Marion.

["*Truth* TO TELL."]

The Queen never drinks more than two glasses of either champagne or claret, usually the former, and after dinner her Majesty frequently takes a small glass of Tokay—a wine of which Prince Albert was very fond, and he invariably drank a bumper of it at dessert.

The Queen has an immense cellar of very fine wine. A great deal of the old vintage port and the Cabinet hocks, by-the-by, will have to be drunk shortly or they will go off irretrievably.

The Bournemouth people not unreasonably contend that, as the Prince of Wales and other English Royalties have made the fortunes of places like Homburg, Kissingen, and Wiesbaden, they ought to give their own country a chance, and when Prince Albert Victor was within half a dozen miles of Bournemouth, it was fully expected that Lord Wimborne would have brought him over, if only for a few hours.

The Queen has purchased Mr. Walker's shorthorn steer, which took the first prize at Birmingham and the second at Smithfield.

The Prince of Wales intends to go to Cannes about the second week in February, and he will remain on the Riviera for a month. H.R.H. will unveil the recumbent effigy of the Duke of Albany which the Queen has presented to the new church of St. George, during his visit to Cannes.

The Prince and Princess are to go to Middlesbrough on the 23rd for the purpose of opening the new Municipal Buildings and Townhall, which have cost £100,000. There will be a lawn meet of Lord Zetland's hounds at Aske, on the Thursday, and a shooting-party on the 25th.

The Prince of Wales has decided to effect certain economies, and the Sandringham expenses are to be considerably cut down next year. One of the home farms is to be given up, and the other will be reduced. The greater portion of the herd of shorthorns, and the flock of South Downs, will be sold off in July.

H.R.H. would act more wisely if he sold his racing-stud, and gave up racing, so far as ownership is concerned. His speculations in blood stock have been, so far, very unfortunate, and they must have cost him a moderate fortune during the last four years.

Lord Kintore is indebted for his appointment as Governor of South Australia to the fact that his removal from the office of Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard will facilitate the economical reforms which are to be carried out in the Royal Household. This post is worth £1200 a year, and it will not be filled up.

Mr. Gladstone intends to remain at Naples till the first week in February, when he goes to Rome, where he will be the guest of Lord Dufferin at the Embassy.

EXTRAORDINARY ESCAPE OF A RUSSIAN PRINCESS.

A TERRIBLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT occurred near Charkoff, on Jan. 7, by which Princess Lieven, a member of a noble Russian family, narrowly escaped instant death. The Princess was crossing the railway, near the Krasnopavloska Station of the Kursk-Azoff line, when the sledge in which she was driving was overtaken by a passing train and smashed to pieces. The driver was killed on the spot, having both feet cut off by the wheels of the advancing train. The Princess herself fell between the rails, where she lay in an unconscious state while the train passed over without injuring her.

THE German corvette Schwalbe, which arrived at Zanzibar last Tuesday week, ran aground on a coral reef, twenty-five miles south of Zanzibar, on Friday se'nnight. The German Admiral was on board. The steamer was going eleven knots when she struck very heavily upon the reef. Upon application of the German Admiral, the British hired despatch-boat Woodcock, under Lieutenant Walter, at once proceeded from Zanzibar to assist the Schwalbe; and she was eventually towed off by the Leipsig and Woodcock, after being thirty-four hours on the reef, and being much lightened of coal and ammunition.

THROAT AFFECTIONS AND HOARSENESS.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES." People troubled with a "hacking cough," a "slight cold," or bronchial affections, cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box.—Of all Chemists, 1s. 1½d. per Box.—[ADVT.]

RAILWAY SERVANTS.—Signalmen, Engine-Drivers, Porters, and others, who have frequently long intervals of work between meals, should drink CADBURY'S COCOA, a sustaining beverage, agreeable and comforting, during long spells of work. Beware of imitations.—[ADVT.]

A Look Round.

THE QUEEN has been pleased to approve of the appointment of his Royal Highness Prince Henry of Battenberg, K.G., to be Governor and Captain-General of the Isle of Wight and Governor of Carisbrooke Castle, in the room of the late Viscount Eversley, G.C.B.

Colonel Clarke represented the Prince and Princess of Wales at the funeral of Chief-Inspector Walker, of the Metropolitan Police, at the Brompton Cemetery on Monday.

Mr. Gladstone on Tuesday morning went to Pompeii, where, says the *Daily News* correspondent, he was received by the Directors of Excavations—Professors Ruggiero and Sogliano—the guards, in their gala uniforms, being drawn up at the gate.

The Duke of Rutland, who has been suffering from a mild attack of gout, is making favourable progress towards recovery.

The Marquis of Hartington left Devonshire House on Monday for Hardwick Hall, Derbyshire.

The usual Christmas dole of coal was distributed at the end of last week on the Leicestershire estates of Lord Donington, upwards of 100 tons having been given away at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Castle Donington, and Breedon-on-the-Hill.

Mr. Ritchie, President of the Local Government Board, who has been detained in town in connection with the arrangements for the County Council elections, left for the South of France on Monday morning, and will be absent during the month.

President Carnot, accompanied by Count Münster, the German Ambassador to France, and several other personages of distinction, on Monday went on a hunting expedition to Rambouillet.

Count Hatzfeldt, the German Ambassador to London, returned to Berlin from Friedrichsruh on Monday, where he had been on a visit to Prince Bismarck.

The reception of Professor Geffcken on his return from Hamburg was most enthusiastic. He received on Monday more than a hundred congratulatory telegrams.

Professor Elgar, Director of Dockyards, visited Portsmouth on Monday to inspect the programme for this year's work in the dockyard, which includes, it is said, the laying down of a battle-ship one and a quarter the size of the Trafalgar, which is already the largest ship in the service. The visit also had reference to the fitting out of the ships for this year's mobilisation, the largest of which are the Anson, Howe, Camperdown, Collingwood, Inflexible, and Hero.

The first step towards strengthening the defences at the entrances to the Rivers Thames and Medway was taken on Monday in the mounting of a new 10 in. 29-ton breechloading gun upon the Centre Bastion, Sheerness, which immediately faces the estuary of the two rivers.

On Monday an important memorandum was issued from the War Office, pointing out to Generals commanding districts that the recent Royal Warrant for the Reorganisation of the Commissariat and Transport Staff has quite changed the conditions under which the Army has hitherto been provided with supplies and transport. By the new warrant the executive duties of supply and transport are made the regimental duty of the new Army Service Corps, and the administrative duties connected with the service are to be performed under direct supervision by officers of the staff.

Mr. Stuart Wortley, M.P., spoke last Monday night at a meeting in Govan, in support of Sir John Pender. Mr. Wortley said he had just come from London to say that the Ministry of Lord Salisbury favoured the candidature of Sir John Pender, and are anxious that he should be returned to Parliament for Govan. Sir John's candidature represented the Unionist cause.

Several public meetings were held on Monday in support of candidates for the County Council of London. One to promote the candidature of the Earl of Rosebery for the City of London was presided over by the Rev. W. Rogers, of Bishopsgate. Lord Rosebery, who addressed the meeting, strongly deprecated the introduction of party politics to influence the votes at the approaching elections.

At a meeting held on Monday, under the presidency of the Mayor (Mr. G. H. Peter), the Windsor Town Council authorised the payment of the £2000 guaranteed by the Corporation towards the expenses of the show which the Royal Agricultural Society intends holding next Midsummer in Windsor Park. The amount voted, and an additional £1100, have been voluntarily contributed, the Queen, Prince Christian, and Prince Henry of Battenberg being among the subscribers.

Her Majesty, who is president, and the Prince of Wales, the acting president, will, it is anticipated, visit the show, the dates for which have now been definitively settled. It will open on Saturday, June 22, and will be continued till the following Saturday, when it will close.

A FAIR, BEAUTIFUL SKIN.—SULPHOLINE SOAP gives the natural tint, and makes the skin smooth, supple, healthy, comfortable. 6d. tablets. Everywhere.—[ADVT.]

"CLEANING SILVER."—All difficulty in keeping silver, electro-plate, &c., untarnished and with a brilliant polish, may be obviated by using GODDARD'S NON-MERCURIAL PLATE-POWDER. Sold everywhere, in Boxes, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. Five gold medals awarded.—[ADVT.]

The Playgoer.

MR. H. BEERBOHM-TREE is untiring. His many admirers delight in his activity. As the Haymarket is thronged each night by crowds who are absorbed by his powerful acting as the Queensland adventurer in "Captain Swift," so at the Wednesday matinées the leading comedy house is similarly filled by appreciative audiences, which warmly applaud his admirable rendering of Falstaff in "The Merry Wives of Windsor." The signal merit of Mr. Tree's in every way excellent representation of this welcome old-world play at the Haymarket is that one and all of the characters seem real living flesh and blood—not the mere elocutionary machines we have been previously accustomed to. The plot, broad humour, characterisation, and intrigue of Shakspeare's "Merry Wives of Windsor" thus hold everyone spellbound the whole January afternoon. I have never seen it acted so well all round. The fat knight of Mr. Tree is Falstaff to the life—a carefully and cleverly wrought-out performance from first to last. No one would imagine Mr. Tree was the animating spirit of the gross mountain of flesh. But Mr. Tree is unsurpassed in the art of concealing art. As the mountain labours and woos buxom Mrs. Ford and fair Mrs. Page with Falstaffian ardour, bright and beautiful pictures of Old Windsor are conjured up by Mr. Walter Johnstone; and the melodies of Sir Arthur Sullivan make a delicious musical accompaniment to the scenes of amour. By all manner of means, see Mr. Tree in his unctuous impersonation of Sir John Falstaff; Miss Rose Leclercq and Miss Lingard as Mrs. Page and Mrs. Ford; Mr. Macklin (well done, Macklin!) as Mr. Ford and Mr. Fred Harrison as Mr. Page; Mrs. Tree as the sweetest of sweet Anne Pages; Mr. Brookfield as Master Slender and Mr. Fuller Mellish as Fenton; Mr. H. Kemble as Dr. Caius and Mrs. Edmund Phelps as Mistress Quickly; Mr. Lionel Brough as mine host of The Garter and Mr. Edward Righton as Sir Hugh Evans; Mr. Vollaire as Justice Shallow; and Mr. Dawson and Mr. Charles Allan as Bardolph and Pistol.

The interest in Planquette's new comic opera is so great that every reserved place is taken for the current Saturday night at the Prince of Wales's, where the Carl Rosa Light Opera Company will be sure to produce "Paul Jones" with that perfection of *ensemble* for which Mr. Carl Rosa is famous. Mr. F. Stanislaus will conduct; Alias's costumes are ravishing; and the cast will comprise a host of pretty choristers besides Misses Agnes Huntington, Phyllis Broughton, Kate Cutler, St. Cyr, Jeannie Mills, and Miss Wadman; Messrs. Henry Ashley, Harry Monkhouse, Templer Saxe, Albert James, George Preston, James Francis, and Frank Wyatt.

EXECUTION AT WARWICK.—George Nicholson, aged fifty-two, was hanged at Warwick Jail on Tuesday morning for the murder of his wife at Aston, near Birmingham. The murderer had been a great drunkard, and he and his wife had lived very unhappily together, their infelicitous union culminating in the slaying of the woman by her husband by means of a hatchet.

THE EVICTION PROCEEDINGS at Falcarragh were resumed on Saturday last, and resistance was offered at the outset. The Crown authorities in Dublin had directed that the military force should be employed effectively in the event of there being a repetition of resistance to the law. It was unanimously resolved on Sunday at a convention of the National League, held in County Wexford, to vote Mr. John Dillon £500 towards the support of evicted tenants.

TO STUDENTS.—To all those who burn the "Midnight Oil," engaged in mental labour, we would recommend CADBURY'S COCOA; its comforting, exhilarating, and sustaining powers are extraordinary. Beware of imitations.—[ADVT.]

SHIPPING CASUALTIES.

THE steamer Holmside, 738 tons, of and for London from Shields, was sunk off Hasborough on Sunday night, after collision in a thick fog with the steamer Braemar, of Aberdeen. The crew of nineteen men were all saved by the Braemar, and landed at Yarmouth on Monday. The Braemar was a good deal damaged, and anchored in the Yarmouth Roads.

While the steamer Maranhense, of the Red Cross Line, was proceeding down the Mersey on Monday, bound for South America, she collided with the inward-bound steamer Cyfarthfa, of Cardiff, which immediately commenced to sink. The crew were taken off, and she was towed to the beach, where she sank. A fortnight previously the Maranhense collided with the Manx steamer Snaefell, and had to put back to dock in the Mersey.

Distressing tales of shipwrecks, almost exclusively of sailing vessels, continue to arrive daily from the Black Sea. Hundreds of lives have been lost during the past fortnight. The winter in Constantinople and the neighbourhood is exceptionally severe.

KING HUMBERT TO LORD DUFFERIN.

THE Marquis of Dufferin presented to King Humbert his credentials as British Ambassador. King Humbert, in reply, intimated his satisfaction at the present relations between the two nations, and expressed the hope that he might again see Queen Victoria in Italy. His Majesty also spoke in very warm terms of the Empress Frederick of Germany, and concluded by declaring that he regarded the appointment of such an illustrious personage as the Marquis to the post of British Ambassador as a fresh proof on the part of Queen Victoria of friendship towards Italy.

CRIMES OF THE PERIOD.

ON Sunday afternoon, the funeral of Rose Millett, the young woman who was found dead in Clarke's-yard, Poplar, took place at Bow Cemetery. The remains were conveyed from the house of the deceased's mother, 69, Pelham-street, Whitechapel—the mourners being the mother, Margaret Millett, widow, and a young woman, cousin of the deceased. The Rev. W. H. Rice officiated at the cemetery, where a crowd had collected, as was also the case when the remains left Whitechapel.

A young man, an artist, named Jenkins, alias Weathercroft, called for his sweetheart, Emily Joy, at Godalming, on Monday night, and the latter not returning, her friends made a search for her, but without avail. On Tuesday Jenkins called at an inn near Haslemere, and having stated that he had committed a murder, the landlord took him to the police-station at Guildford. Here Jenkins confessed to having enticed the girl to his studio at Godalming, and, having committed a criminal assault, strangled her. The police on proceeding to the studio found the body of Miss Joy as stated.

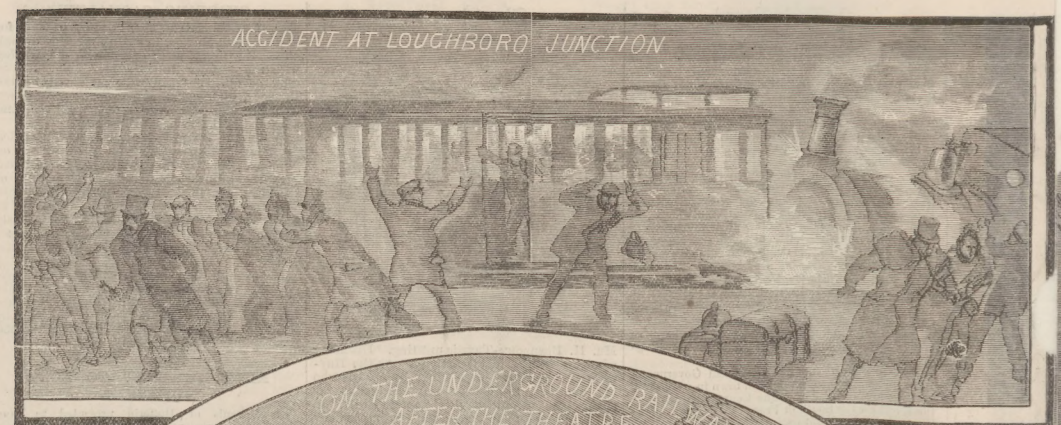
The Bradford Murder remains of interest beyond Yorkshire. Mr. J. W. Craven, the solicitor acting for William Barrett, the man arrested on suspicion of having murdered the boy John Gill, applied on Monday to the Magistrates to be furnished with a copy of the depositions taken in the case. Barrett's friends have opened a fund for his defence. They repeat the statement that Barrett's movements during the whole of the time between Thursday, when the boy disappeared, and Saturday, when his body was discovered, can be completely accounted for.

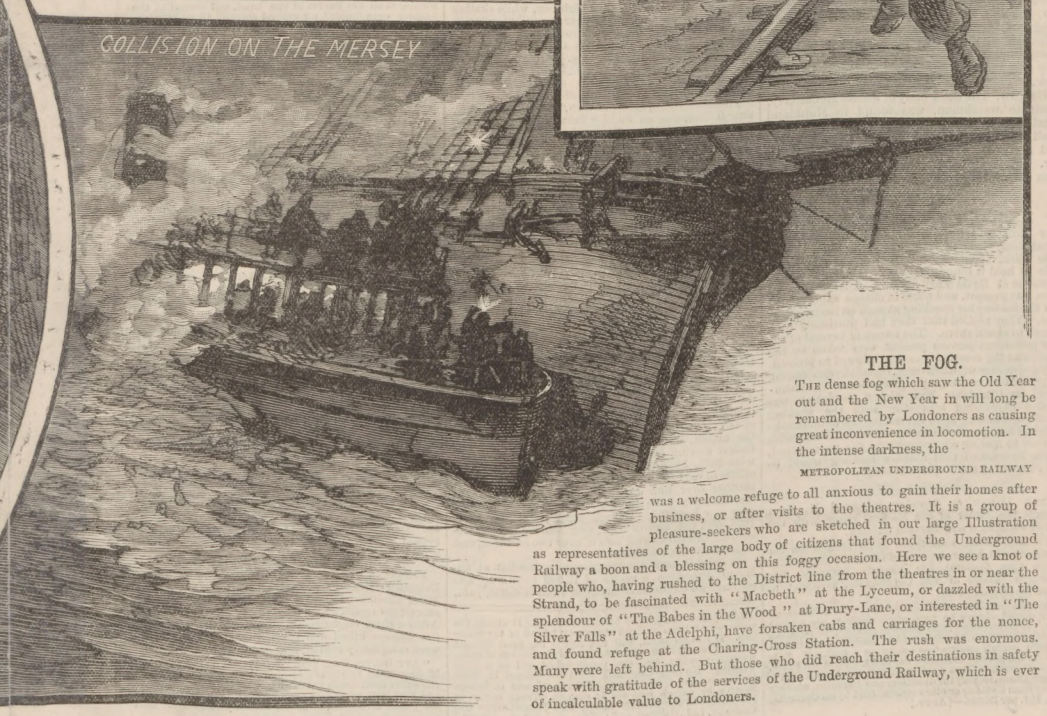
The inquest on the body of Maria Arscott, who was murdered, on Saturday, at Tar Mill Farm, South Tawton, Devonshire, was held, on Monday, before Mr. G. L. Fulford, Coroner. The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against Thomas Arscott.

The inquest on the body of the little girl, Emma Jane Davis, who was murdered on Wednesday week, was held at Yeobridge Farm last Monday, before Mr. Munckton, Coroner. Evidence having been given as to the loss and subsequent discovery of the child, Dr. Walter bore testimony to the nature of the wounds. The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown. A man, Reyland, was taken into custody on a charge of murder.

THE LIVERPOOL SHIPOWNERS made a concession, on Saturday, of a general advance in wages to the sailors and firemen, who had been on strike for a fortnight.

MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN were on Tuesday the recipients of a very gratifying testimonial of regard from the town of Birmingham. Mr. Chamberlain and his charming American bride were the guests of the evening at a grand conversazione in the Townhall.





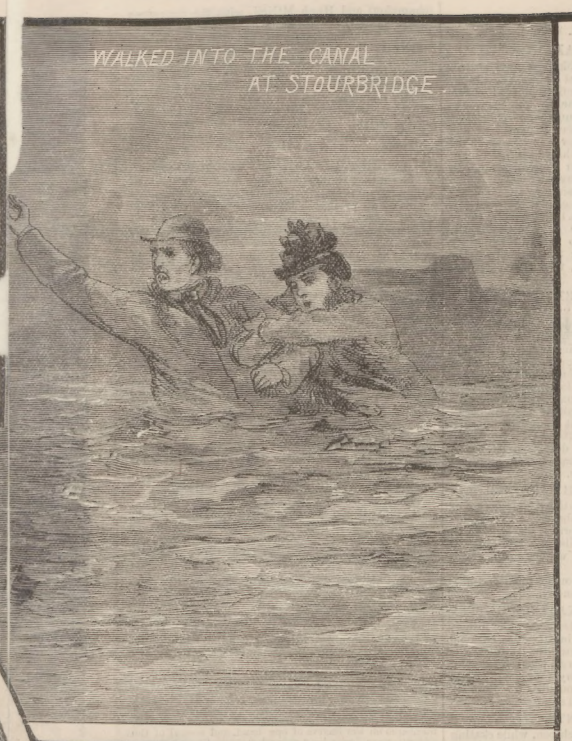
THE FOG.

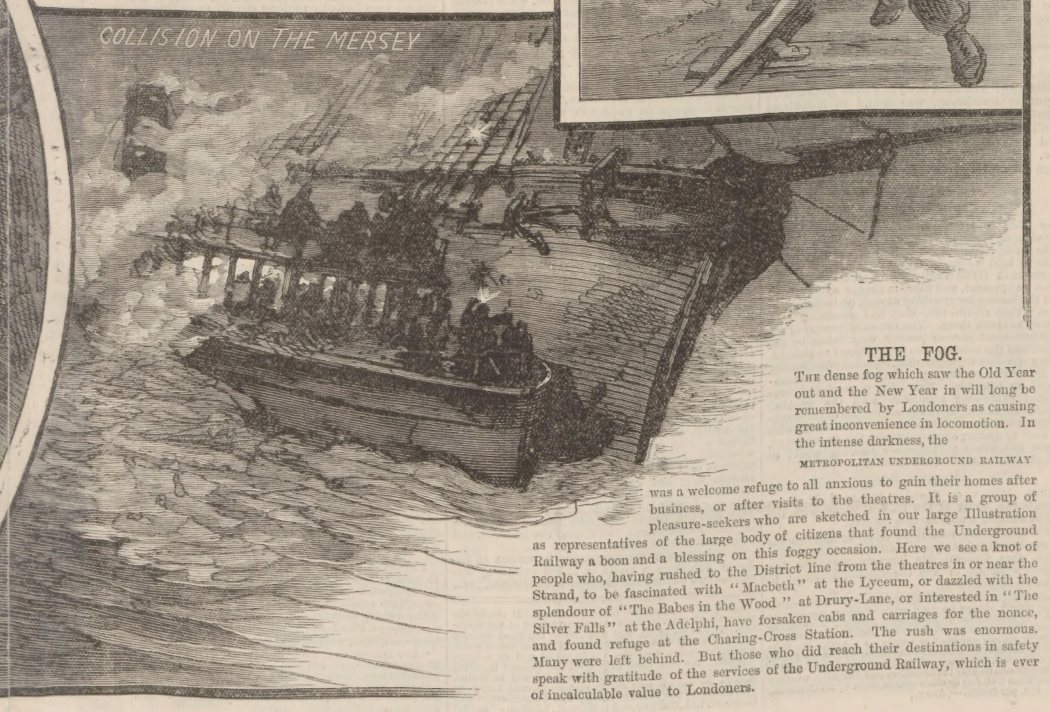
The dense fog which saw the Old Year out and the New Year in will long be remembered by Londoners as causing great inconvenience in locomotion. In the intense darkness, the

METROPOLITAN UNDERGROUND RAILWAY

was a welcome refuge to all anxious to gain their homes after business, or after visits to the theatres. It is a group of pleasure-seekers who are sketched in our large Illustration as representatives of the large body of citizens that found the Underground Railway a boon and a blessing on this foggy occasion. Here we see a knot of people who, having rushed to the District line from the theatres in or near the Strand, to be fascinated with "Macbeth" at the Lyceum, or dazzled with the splendour of "The Babes in the Wood" at Drury-Lane, or interested in "The Silver Falls" at the Adelphi, have forsaken cabs and carriages for the nonce, and found refuge at the Charing-Cross Station. The rush was enormous. Many were left behind. But those who did reach their destinations in safety speak with gratitude of the services of the Underground Railway, which is ever of incalculable value to Londoners.

ENGLAND IN A FOG: SCENES AND CASUALTIES DURING THE NEW-YEAR'S FOG.





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ENGLAND IN A FOG: SCENES AND CASUALTIES DURING THE NEW-YEAR'S FOG.

THE LOUGHBOROUGH SHAKING

is reverted to, "in this connection," because it may be the means of insuring more care on the particular portion of the line where the mishap happened. A vast number having occupation in Fleet-street and the City reside at Loughborough; travelling to and from their homes by rail. It will be remembered that the accident illustrated occurred during the fog on the Sunday night before New-Year's Day. The fog-signal layers were temporarily absent. At about ten minutes to seven a South Western Company's train, on its way from Ludgate-hill to Richmond, was standing at No. 2 Platform, waiting for the signal to drop for it to proceed on its journey, when it was run into by a Chatham and Dover Company's train proceeding from Moorgate-street to Victoria. The signals situated a couple of hundred yards or so down the line were against this train, but the fog was so dense that they were not discerned by the driver. A violent shock was, of course, immediately experienced by the passengers in both trains, but the most serious effects were felt in the first coach of the train standing at the platform, which was jammed so violently against the heavy engine standing in front as to be thrown partly off and across the metals. Several passengers were injured; but we trust they have now quite recovered.

DEATH OF A FOG SIGNALMAN.

On Jan. 3 Mr. W. P. Morrison held an inquest at the Railway Hotel, Norwood Junction, respecting the death of Stephen Gurr, a fog signalman, who met his death on New Year's Day, near the Goathouse Bridge, Norwood Junction. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, adding a rider to the effect that they were astonished at the number of hours deceased had to work, and requested the Coroner to report the matter to the Home Office.

DROWNED IN THE CANAL.

Fog prevailed in the country. On Jan. 3, the bodies of a young couple named Richard Walters and Fanny Cornock were found in the canal at the Nine Locks, near Stourbridge. They had gone for a walk together, and it is supposed that in consequence of the dense fog they fell into the canal and were drowned.

A MERSEY COLLISION.

Liverpool was obscured by a very dense fog. On the same day, a passenger-steamer, plying between Liverpool and the Cheshire side, came into collision with a barque at anchor, both being considerably damaged. There was great excitement among the passengers, several of whom jumped on board the barque. The dead body of a man was found in the Mersey Graving Dock. There were similar casualties in the fog at Glasgow. The dead body of James McCafferty, a private watchman, was found in Monkland Canal Basin, Glasgow. Quite near was also found the dead body of Robert Low, a clerk, aged sixty-six, residing in Castle-street, Glasgow. It is supposed that Low was drowned when attempting to rescue McCafferty.

MEETING IN HYDE PARK.

LAST Monday afternoon a meeting of the unemployed took place in front of the Achilles statue, Hyde Park, after an ineffectual attempt had been made to hold it round the base of the new Wellington statue at Hyde Park-corner. A large force of police was present, and those in charge expostulated with the leaders for speaking at such an inconvenient place. They replied that they had previously been allowed to speak there. The names of several of the more prominent persons present were taken by the police, and the meeting was then allowed to proceed. Strong speeches were delivered, especially denouncing the police for breaking up a procession of the unemployed on Christmas Eve, and a resolution was adopted expressing sympathy with the working classes, and calling upon the authorities to undertake a scheme for the erection of artisans' dwellings, with the view to finding employment for the unemployed. It was announced that another meeting would be held in front of the Royal Exchange.

KING MILAN on Monday intrusted M. Sava Gruitch, the leader of the Radical party, with the task of forming a new Servian Cabinet.

WE understand that there is no foundation for the report which has appeared in some of the weekly papers that General Sir Francis Seymour, her Majesty's Master of the Ceremonies, is about to resign his appointment.

"ADVICE TO MOTHERS."—MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP should always be used when children are cutting teeth. It relieves the little sufferer at once, it produces natural quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It is perfectly harmless. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Sold by all Chemists, at 1s. 1½d. per Bottle.—[ADVT.]

Sport.

THE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIP.

THE race for the National Skating Association's Open Championship was decided on Jan. 4 at Lingay Fen, near Cambridge, where a mile and a half course with three turns had been prepared. The ice was in capital condition, and a large number of spectators were present. There were thirteen competitions, and the conditions were that the four men who made the fastest times in the first round should compete in the second round. The four left in were James Smart, George See, Isaac See, and Jarman Smart. These again competed with the following results:—James Smart beat George See, after a good race, by 60 yds. Isaac See beat Jarman Smart by 80 yds. James Smart received the first prize of £10, holds the champion's sash, and will also receive an annuity from the association. George See carried off the second prize of £5; Isaac See, third; and Jarman Smart, fourth prizes.

"FISH" SMART BEATEN BY JAMES.

George, otherwise known as "Fish" Smart, who had held the skating championship for fifteen years, having been unable to reach Cambridge in time to take part in the race held at Lingay Fen on Friday, which was carried off by his younger brother James, a meeting between the pair was arranged for Saturday last. The ice was again in capital condition, and a course of a mile and a half with three turns had been laid out. "Fish" got off slightly better than his younger brother, but before a hundred yards had been covered the latter was in front, and holding the lead throughout, despite a couple of determined efforts by his opponent, won by about fifteen yards in 5 min. 28 2-5 sec.

AMATEUR SKATING CHAMPIONSHIP.

The National Skating Association Amateur Championship at Lingay Fen, Cambridge, was won on Monday by W. Loveday, of Werney, his brother, J. Loveday, being second. Wallis, the late amateur champion, was third. The winner's time was 5 min. 15 3-5 sec.

Tom Pickering, of Cowbit, won the open one-mile skating-match at Cowbit on Monday.

THE INTERNATIONAL SKATING CONTEST was opened on Tuesday at Amsterdam. The principal event was the half mile in the International Amateur Championship, which resulted as follows:—A. Von Panschin (St. Petersburg), first; K. Pender (Haarlem), second; W. Loveday (Welney), third; and C. Tebbutt (St. Ives), fourth. W. Loveday covered the distance in 1 min. 34 sec.

ICE ACCIDENTS.

A boy named Frith, aged eighteen, while skating on Saturday on a deep pit near the railway station at Radcliffe, Lancashire, was drowned.

Four gentlemen, skating on Chingford Lake on Saturday, fell through the ice. A dense fog prevailed at the time. Three of the party succeeded in struggling to the bank; the other, a Mr. John Douglas, of Stamford-hill, was drowned.

Thomas Gaskell, aged fourteen, of West Houghton, near Bolton, was on Sunday drowned in a pond on which he was sliding. His brothers had endeavoured to dissuade him from going upon the ice.

George Boyce, aged sixteen, of 3, St. Barnabas-terrace, Merton-road, Wandsworth, fell through the ice on a piece of water in South Fields, while skating on Sunday. He was drowned.

PRIZE-FIGHTING IN AMERICA.

A Reuter's telegram, dated New York, Jan. 7, states that J. Kilrain and J. L. Sullivan have arranged to fight near New Orleans in July next.

COLONEL NORTH

is the newest accession to the ranks of owners of race-horses, he having purchased Mirror, 4 years, and Iddesleigh, 3 years. They are now trained at Newmarket by Robert Sherwood.

BILLIARDS: GREAT SCORING.

The match in which W. Peall conceded F. White 4500 start, in 15,000, all in, for a stake of £200 a side, was brought to a close at the Westminster Aquarium last Saturday, the room in which the contest was decided being crowded both in the afternoon and evening. White ran out with an unfinished break of 465 (153 spots), a winner by 923 points. During the match, which was productive of some of the fastest scoring ever seen, the best breaks by Peall were 2033, 1220, 912, and 780, in addition to four others of over six hundred, one of over five hundred, another over four hundred, five exceeding three hundred, six more than two hundred, and nine of over one hundred. White's chief runs were 1562, 1025, 809, 684, two of over four hundred, seven exceeding three hundred, two of over two hundred, and eight of over one hundred.

In order to vary the programme somewhat at the Royal Aquarium, a match of 12,000 points up was commenced on Monday between John Roberts, jun., (champion) and Hugh M'Neil, with the dangerous hazard barred, the latter being in receipt of 4500 points. A numerous company patronised the billiard gallery in the course of the day, and play of a brilliant character was witnessed. Considering whom he was competing with, the young Scotchman fairly surpassed himself, as he compiled breaks of 232 (46 nursery cannons), 211, 76, 57, 72, 74, and 117, contributing altogether 1250 points, only 45 less than the top weight. The latter's chief runs were 93, 64, 139, 68, 58, 122, 93, 140, 82, and 72, the full scores at the adjournment being—M'Neil, 5750; Roberts, 1295.

INTERNATIONAL DRAUGHTS MATCH.

The contest, thirty-two games up, for the title of International Champion Draughts Player, £200, and a silver cup presented by Dr. O'Hanlon, between C. F. Barker, of Boston, U.S.A., Champion of America, and James Smith, Champion of England, concluded at Spennymoor last Monday. The men were to have played off the remaining four games of the series next day, but as, in any event, Smith had no chance of winning, he decided to withdraw from the contest, and Barker was accordingly declared the winner. The score was—Barker, five wins; Smith, one win; and no fewer than twenty-two games were drawn.

A SCULLING-MATCH

for a stake of £20 a side between the well-known Thames sculler, George Bubear, and George Norvell, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, was decided over a half-mile course between the High Level and Redheugh Bridges at Newcastle, last Saturday. Bubear, who won the toss, had the more advantageous station, but got badly away. Norvell soon led by a length and a half, a distance by which the Northerner eventually gained an easy victory. The betting was 2 to 1 on Norvell.

THROWING THE CRICKET-BALL.

The American baseball teams played their final game in Australia last Saturday. The Chicago men afterwards played a fine innings against a local team composed chiefly of Americans resident in the colony, defeating them by twenty to three. A great sensation was caused later in the afternoon, when Spalding, the Australian champion, challenged the Americans for £100 to throw the cricket-ball against him. Three Americans—Crane, Williamson, and Pfeiffer—responded to the challenge, with the result that Crane won easily with the extraordinary throw of 128 yds. 10½ in.; Williamson coming next, 3 yds. 2 in. behind. Crane's performance beats the world's record by 2 yds. 7 in.

FOOTBALL.

Football matches were seriously interfered with in all parts of the country last Saturday, frost or fog causing a large number to be abandoned. In and around the metropolis the contests of any importance could almost be numbered on the fingers of one hand, and several of the fixtures were decided on ground scarcely fit to play on. The following are the results of the most important encounters:—

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP.

Burnley v. Aston Villa.—In this match, played at Burnley in the presence of 7000 spectators, the first half of the game was fairly even, and only one goal was scored. In the second portion the home team had the best of matters, and won by 4 to nil.

Everton v. Blackburn Rovers.—At Everton, before 6000 spectators, a splendid game took place. Watson scored for Everton after twenty minutes' play. This was the only point of the match, the home team thus winning by 1 to nil.

Preston North End v. Notts County.—There was an attendance of 4000 spectators to witness this contest, at Preston. At half-time the North End team led by 2 to nil. In the second portion they had the best of the game, and won by 4 to 1.

West Bromwich Albion v. Wolverhampton Wanderers.—At West Bromwich, before 3000 spectators, a fast and even game was witnessed during the first portion, each side being credited with 1 goal. The visitors showed to better advantage after the interval, and defeated the once-powerful combination by 3 to 1.

Positions and results up to last Saturday:—

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals for	Goals agst.
1. Preston North End	19	16	0	3	68	13
2. Aston Villa	17	10	3	4	48	31
3. Wolverhampton W.	17	9	4	4	42	27
4. Blackburn Rovers	17	7	4	6	52	36
5. West Bromwich Albion	18	9	8	1	35	39
6. Everton	17	7	7	3	30	35
6. Accrington	17	5	5	7	41	39
8. Bolton Wanderers	16	6	9	1	42	44
9. Burnley	18	6	10	2	37	55
10. Stoke	17	4	11	2	21	42
11. Notts County	15	2	11	2	26	53
12. Derby County	14	2	11	1	24	50

A draw reckons as half a win.

NEW ZEALANDERS V. KIRKSTALL (R.).

At Kirkstall, the Maories last Saturday followed up their previous success by defeating the home team by two goals one try to one goal.

MONDAY'S FOOTBALL.

Although the severity of the weather prevented the Rugby fixture, Midland Counties v. Northamptonshire, being decided at Northampton, the New Zealanders were able to bring off their match with the Brighouse Rangers, at Brighouse, winning by a goal and a try to the Rangers' nil. The Corinthians wound up their tour at Deepdale by playing Preston North End, who defeated them by three goals to none.

FIGHTING IN BURMAH.—The column under Brigadier-General Collett, dispatched to the Salween River against Sawlapaw, chief of the Red Karens, came into conflict with the enemy on the 1st inst. After a sharp engagement, in which the British lost five Sepoys killed and seven wounded, the Karens were completely routed, and fled, leaving 200 dead.

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HOW PILLS ARE MADE.

THE custom of taking medicine in the form of pills dates far back in history. The object is to enable us to swallow easily in a condensed form disagreeable and nauseous, but very useful drugs. To what vast dimensions pill-taking has grown may be imagined when we say that in England alone about 2,000,000,000 (two thousand million) pills are consumed every year. In early days, pills were made slowly by hand, as the demand was comparatively small. To-day they are produced with infinitely greater rapidity by machines especially contrived for the purpose, and with greater accuracy, too, in the proportions of the various ingredients employed.

No form of medication can be better than a pill, provided only it is intelligently prepared. But right here occurs the difficulty. Easy as it may seem to make a pill, or a million of them, there are really very few pills that can be honestly commended for popular use. Most of them either undershoot or overshoot the mark. As everybody takes pills of some kind, it may be well to mention what a good, safe, and reliable pill should be. Now, when one feels dull and sleepy, and has, more or less, pain in the head, sides, and back, he may be sure his bowels are constipated, and his liver sluggish. To remedy this unhappy state of things there is nothing like a good cathartic pill. It will act like a charm by stimulating the liver into doing its duty, and ridding the digestive organs of the accumulated poisonous matter.

But the good pill does not gripe and pain us; neither does it make us sick and miserable for a few hours, or a whole day. It acts on the entire glandular system at the same time, else the after-effects of the pill will be worse than the disease itself. The griping caused by most pills is the result of irritating drugs which they contain. Such pills are harmful, and should never be used. They sometimes even produce hemorrhoids. Without having any particular desire to praise one pill above another, we may, nevertheless, name Mother Seigel's Pills, manufactured by the well-known house of A. J. White, Limited, 35, Farringdon-road, London, and now sold by all chemists and medicine venders at 1s. 1½d. a box, as the only one we know of that actually possesses every desirable quality. They remove the pressure upon the brain, correct the liver, and cause the bowels to act with ease and regularity. They never gripe, or produce the slightest sickness of the stomach, or any other unpleasant feeling or symptom. Neither do they induce further constipation, as nearly all other pills do. As a further and crowning merit, Mother Seigel's Pills are covered with a tasteless and harmless coating, which causes them to resemble pearls, thus rendering them as pleasant to the palate as they are effective in curing disease. If you have a severe cold, and are threatened with a fever, with pains in the head, back, and limbs, one or two doses will break up the cold and prevent the fever.

A coated tongue, with a brackish taste in the mouth, is caused by foul matter in the stomach. A dose of Seigel's Pills will effect a speedy cure. Oftentimes partially decayed food in the stomach and bowels produce sickness, nausea, &c. Cleanse the bowels with a dose of these pills, and good health will follow.

Unlike many kinds of pills, they do not make you feel worse before you are better. They are, without doubt, the best family physic ever discovered. They remove all obstructions to the natural functions in either sex without any unpleasant effects.

WINTER SCENE IN BRIGHTON: LAUNCHING THE LIFE-BOAT.

THE SHOWMAN.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

Haste to the Shows—the New Year's Shows! My friends, the Managers, have spent no end of money in producing the grandest of spectacles. Go to their playhouses in your thousands, and reward them for their stupendous efforts. Follow my tip! Remember merry Prince Bonhomme was so far influenced by my warm commendation of Covent-Garden Circus that he took Princess Sweeteyes and all his family to see and enjoy the fun directly he came to town from Sandringham. So take my tip, my worthy Corinthian and Plebeian patrons! Be in time—in time!

Place to "Macbeth"!—"The Real Mac Beth," and no mistake this time. Ye see, the Scotch Reel is danced differently. Her Gracious Majesty up at Balmoral, on All Hallowe'en, may dance it one way (Why, why doesn't her Majesty favour us by dancing a Reel at Buckingham Palace?). They dance it in another way—with the staid, Elizabethan steps of Shakspeare's olden times—at the Royal Lyceum Theatre. The ghosts of Mrs. Siddons, good old Phelps, and nasal Charles Kean, may point the fingers of scorn as much as they like at Henry McIrving and Ellen McTerry. I confess I like their conceptions for a' that and a' that. Not ideal impersonations. No! I grant ye that. Not such performances, for example, as ye may have been accustomed to in our own good old Richardsonian Theatre. But, for all that, a well thought-out and clearly individualised Macbeth on the part of Henry Irving (King of Managers)—a vivid realisation of Remorse that should strike terror into the hearts of all would-be murderers—and a real, live, loving Lady Macbeth on the part of

sweet Ellen Terry: behold her with her red-hair streamers! Mounting magnificent—Hawes Craven as Champion Scene-painter far and away superior to Keeley Halswelle. Result: Joey Hurst, penned up in his pigeon-house of a box-office, cannot book seats in advance fast enough to satisfy the cravings of the playgoing public. Be in time! Be in time!

I wave my harlequin's wand. Hey, presto! Quick change to the bright and easy Adelphi—transformed into a veritable Silver Mine. Yes! The twin-like Brothers Gatti have "struck ile," and siller, too, with Sims and Pettitt's new Mexican and Mayne-Reidish melodrama, and the "Silver Falls" in welcome torrents into the hats of enterprising A. and S. Gatti. Long may they continue to pick up gold and silver not only at the renovated Adelphi, at which beaming Charley Jecks presides, but also at their elegant Adelaide Gallery Restaurant.

A musical evening? Hie early on Saturday night to the Prince of Wales's Theatre, and be prepared for plenty of melody in M. Planquette's new comic opera, "Paul Jones." I can promise ye lovely new Watteau dresses by that prince of Costumiers, Monsieur Charles Alias, who has completely thrown himself into the work for Carl Rosa." "Thoroughness," as ye know of old, is Carl Rosa's motto in the production of Opera; and "Thoroughness" will characterise his new enterprise, I 'm assured, in starting Comic Opera in English at the Prince of Wales's, in conjunction with Mr. Horace Sedger. I can't absolutely guarantee that the gallant Carl Rosa himself will, as misrepresented on our canvas, appear as the bold Paul Jones. Nor can I vouch for it that elastic-limbed Frank Wyatt will surpass poor Fred. Vokes in his eccentric capers. But Frank is bound to cut some capers. And we all like caper-sauce, as provided by him. Be certain of one thing! The Carl Rosa and Sedger combination is sure to yield a glowing and harmonious rendering of Planquette's "Paul Jones," as costumed to perfection by the unrivalled Alias.

Old Drury! Augustus Druriolanus has here beaten his own record with the two novel and beautiful pageants of Toyland and the Ballet of Birds. See them! Feast your eyes on the dazzling tableau! And, if your eyes are not fairly dazed, stop by all means to laugh at Harry Payne's admirable clowning in the Harlequinade—particularly at his comic and diverting "Clown's Dream": one of the funniest Shadow Pantomimes produced for some time.

Whirroo for Whimsical Walker, best Clown of the Royal Covent-Garden Circus! With all the pleasure in the world do I return to Covent-Garden Cirque to introduce to your notice the specialties presented by Mr. W. Freeman Thomas and Messrs. Hengler; goodly Walter Gooch keeping a shrewd supervising eye over all. Fact is, I am grateful for the heartiest peal of laughter I've enjoyed this long time. Ye know how the "Two Macs" were, and are, wont to set the house roaring by their grotesque combats. Very well! That's the sort of irrepressible mirth ye may experience now at Covent-Garden. Don't fail to see the inimitable elophantine "Boney," as cleverly trained by George Lockhart; the famous young equestrian bear "Caviar," and his attached companion mastiff, "John Bull"! Their mirth-moving pranks, with the dashing acts of horsemanship, the best of clowning, "jumpings" by goddesses in gauze, and graceful feats of Hengler's Amazons *à la haute école* will not fail to make ye all as "happy" as your friends have wished ye this New Year.

CODLIN.

THE CRITERION THEATRE last Saturday closed for a fortnight. When it reopens next Saturday the leading item of the programme will be "Still Waters Run Deep." Mr. Charles Wyndham will play John Mildmay; Mrs. Bernard Beere, Mrs. Sternhold; Mr. Herbert Standing, Captain Hawksley; Miss Mary Moore, Mrs. Mildmay; and Mr. Blakeley, the fussy old Mr. Potter.

AT THE OPERA COMIQUE on Saturday evening, the 19th inst., Mrs. Oscar Beringer will produce her drama, "Tares," first played last January at a matinée at the Prince of Wales's Theatre. It was in this piece that her clever daughter—now the representative of "The Real Little Lord Fauntleroy"—made her successful début in this interesting comedy.

STAGE AND ORCHESTRA.

BOOKING FOR "MACBETH"

at the Lyceum is something extraordinary. This great demand on the best seats is a richly-merited reward for Mr. Irving's lavish enterprise and sound artistic judgment in mounting "Macbeth" as it has never been mounted before.

BOOKING AT DRURY-LANE

is also remarkably large for Mr. Augustus Harris's triumphant pantomime "The Babes in the Wood."

"THE SILVER FALLS."

The Australian rights of Messrs. Sims and Pettitt's successful Adelphi drama, "The Silver Falls," have been purchased by Mr. Garner.

MADAME PATTI

arrived in London last Sunday evening from Paris. The cold which prevented her appearance at the Grand Opera on Friday week was quite cured, and the distinguished prima donna arranged to sing at Messrs. Harrison's concert at the Albert Hall.

"SWEET LAVENDER"

reached its 300th representation at Terry's Theatre on Friday evening. Well does this charming comedy merit its exceptional success.

THE LATE JOSEPH MAAS.

A tablet in memory of the late Joseph Maas will shortly be placed in Rochester Cathedral by his widow. The great tenor was a chorister in Rochester Cathedral.

MISS HENRIETTA LINDLEY

has been engaged by Mr. Beerbohm Tree to play Mrs. Ford in "The Merry Wives of Windsor" at the Haymarket, when Miss Lingard goes on tour.

MRS. SWANBOROUGH,

the respected manageress for many years of the Strand Theatre, died on Sunday at her residence, 5, Pelham-crescent, Brompton. She was in her eighty-fifth year and somewhat ailing, but her end was rather sudden. The funeral will take place on Friday, at Brompton Cemetery, at 12.30.

MISS HAWTHORNE'S ILLNESS.

The matinées of "Oliver Twist" at the Princess's have been abandoned in consequence of the alarming illness of Miss Grace Hawthorne, we regret to hear. Should Miss Hawthorne recover her health in time she will appear during Wilson Barrett's engagement in "Now-a-Days" at daily matinées with Mr. Barrett.

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MACBETH.
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